James Kelly

On September 19, 2017, St. John’s added Father James Kelly’s name to its list of monks “Likely to have offended against minors.”

Father William “James” Kelly, OSB was born on November 4, 1915. Father Kelly entered the monastic community as a monk of St. John’s in 1936. Kelly studied theology at St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minnesota and was ordained a Roman Catholic priest June 7, 1942.

Father Kelly served as a priest in the Diocese of Duluth, and the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. He worked in various parishes throughout Minnesota but is not included on any other official lists of clergy members who have been credibly accused of child sexual abuse.

Kelly left St. John’s and the priesthood in 1974. He lived in the Minneapolis & St. Paul Area until his death in 2011.

Father James Kelly worked at the following parishes:

- 1944-60: Saint John’s Abbey, Collegeville, MN
- 1961: St. Bernard’s, St. Paul, MN
- 1962: St. Bernard Abbey, St. Bernard, AL
- 1963-67: St. Joseph’s, Minneapolis, MN
- 1968: St. Mary’s, Stillwater, MN
- 1968-72: St. Joseph’s, Ball Club, MN
- 1972-73: St. Bartholomew’s, Wayzata, MN